



# *What's Happening*

*Navy Fire and Emergency Services Newsletter*  
*Protecting Those Who Defend America*

September 2011

OMNI CEDO DOMUS

Vol 9 No 8

Email the Editor:

[Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil](mailto:Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil)**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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## *Guest Editorial*

### *Mixed Messages Hurt Firefighter Safety Initiatives*

By John Lee Cook Jr.

It is unusual to pick up a copy of a fire service journal or to visit an online newsletter these days without finding an article on creating a safety culture within the fire service. I certainly commend the authors for their efforts to improve safety. When I entered the fire service more than 40 years ago, safety was not on a lot of firefighters' radar screens.

Thanks to the efforts of the fire-service organizations and a host of visionaries, we now operate more safely as an industry due to the adoption of a number of safety standards and improvements in PPE and apparatus. Training has improved and we have a much richer body of literature that was virtually non-existent a few decades ago. Knowledgeable people have written about and shared their experience and knowledge on a whole range of subjects. It is now possible for firefighters to learn from the experiences of others and avoid many of the common mistakes made by current and previous generations of firefighters.

Unfortunately, there is still a hardcore group within our ranks that refuses to embrace the safety paradigm. If this were not so, why are we still losing firefighters in 2011 because they did not buckle their seatbelts in spite of a very aggressive national seatbelt pledge campaign in memory of Firefighter Brian Hunton, who lost his life in 2005 when he fell out of a fire apparatus while responding to an alarm?

We have also known for years that responding to an alarm is dangerous, yet when a new fire chief implemented a policy of having fire apparatus stop at red lights and stop signs a few years ago you would have thought that the world had come to an end based upon all the uproar created by the firefighters. Ironically, a large number of departments made that change years ago with little incident.

Perhaps no issue has generated more contradictory messages about safety than staffing, which has been exacerbated by widespread budget cuts throughout the country due to a weak economy and revenue shortfalls. Central to the issue is the widely held belief that fire companies should be staffed by a minimum of four personnel. While I don't believe that a single model is applicable to every jurisdiction, there is sufficient empirical evidence to support this position, and my own experience with companies of different size crews leads me to believe that anything less than four compromises the effectiveness of both emergency and non-emergency (prevention, training, and station maintenance) activities.

## Guest Editorial (Cont.)

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On the positive side of this issue, a number of local firefighter associations have voted to voluntarily accept salary reductions rather than lay off firefighters, which would have had an obvious detrimental impact on minimum staffing. While it is a bitter pill to swallow, these local groups put their money where their mouth is and stood by their principles. This is certainly within keeping of the best traditions of the fire service and I commend them for their sacrifice!

Unfortunately, other groups insist that we continue to operate as though nothing has changed. That is the definition of insanity: doing things the same way as we have always done them and expecting the results to be different. Take, for example, the recent case where a fire chief and the city manager proposed a reorganization that would have allowed the department to increase minimum company staffing to four AND yielded some budget savings without having to hire any additional firefighters. That sounds too good to be true, right?

Well, the firefighters thought so, because the downside is that an engine and truck company would have to be combined into a quint company and a manpower squad would be eliminated. Personnel would be reassigned to meet the four-person staffing mandate, but unfortunately the number of personnel in each position would be altered. There would be fewer officers and apparatus operators and more firefighter positions. All of this would be done through attrition so that no incumbent would lose his or her current position.

The local firefighters' association was able to exercise its political muscle and prevent the implementation of the plan. It seems that serving the individual interest of having more opportunities for promotion outweighed the collective interest of having safer company staffing levels and providing better service to the public.

Minimum daily staffing would not change under the plan, but the minimum number of firefighters dispatched on a box alarm would have increased from 18 to 21. Of course, every issue is more complex than we know and has both positive and negative impacts on someone or something.

While the fire service will never be without risk, those who have gone before us have demonstrated that we can and should operate more safely. It is also very important to fully debate any important change before it is implemented, but we can hardly expect our elected officials to support us and make wise decisions if we send conflicting messages about an issue so fundamental and so important as our collective safety.



*John Lee Cook Jr. is a consultant and writer who lives in Georgetown, Texas. He spent more than 40 years in the fire service, having served as fire chief in both Conroe and Denton, Texas; as the director of fire and rescue services in Loudoun County, Va.; and as assistant chief with the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department. Cook earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Sam Houston State University and a master's degree in public administration from Southwest Texas State University. He is the author of Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines, has published a number of articles in various fire-service journals, and authored a number of reports for the U.S. Fire Administration. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the National Fire Academy.*

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## Last Alarms

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### 2011 Totals

♥ 51 (69%) 🚒 9 (12%)

♥ Indicates cardiac related death

🚒 Indicates vehicle accident related

## Last Alarms

The USFA reported 73 deaths in 2011. The following line of duty deaths were reported since we published our last issue:

**Gaston Gagne** ♥

Age: 46  
Baytown, TX

**Jeffrey Bowen**

Age: 37  
Asheville, NC

**Timothy Oliveira** 🚒

Age: 53  
Salisbury, MA

**Ronald Ruprecht** ♥

Age: 51  
Stone Lake, WI

**Deon Classay**

Age: 42  
Whiteriver, AZ

**Kyle King**

Age: 53  
Perry, OK

**Jeffery Cocke** ♥

Age: 59  
Altavista, VA

**Trampus Haskvitz**

Age: 23  
Rapid City, SD

**Timothy White** ♥

Age: 50  
Cedar Lake, IN

**Todd Krodle**

Age: 41  
Dallas, TX

**Larry Nelson**

Age: 61  
Del Rio, TX

**Dennis Cauthen** ♥

Age: 54  
Lancaster, SC

**Anthony Meyers** 🚒

Age: 38  
Jasper, TX

**Steve Cox** ♥

Age: 55  
Bountiful, UT

**Henry Branscum**

Age: 32  
Cairo, MO

**Christopher Peterson** 🚒

Age: 22  
Jonesboro, LA

**William Waldner**

Age: 22  
**Jacob Waldner**  
Age: 20  
Britton, SD

**Michael Collins** 🚒

Age: 41  
Shelby, IA

**George Fisher** ♥

Age: 57  
Kinston, NC

**Keith Rankin** ♥

Age: 38  
Bausman, PA

## TCOoO Update



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## Taking Care of Our Own

Check with your Fire Chief if you wish to make a leave donation.

There are currently nine DoD firefighters in the Taking Care of Own program.

Name	Location	Point of Contact
Gregory Feagans	NIOC Sugar Grove, WV	Nanette.Kimble@navy.mil
Joey Tajalle	NAVBASE Guam	Julie.Quinene@fe.navy.mil
Erin Butler	Vandenberg AFB, CA	Sean.Glaser@vandenberg.af.mil
Jason Frazier	NAVSTA Norfolk, VA	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Jason Thompson	Niagara Falls ARS, NY	Marilyn.Ruszala@us.af.mil
Leslie Gonzalez	USMC, 29 Palms, CA	Kerron.Moore@usmc.mil
Richard Willis	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, NH	Marc.J.Smith@navy.mil
Ernest Gilbert	Navy Region Northwest, WA	Carmen.Morris2@navy.mil
David Hamback	NAS JRB New Orleans, LA	Taffy.Ponvelle@navy.mil



## Paul Houdeshell

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## Retired Navy Fire Chiefs Answer Last Alarm



John Paul Houdeshell, Jr., also known as “Paul”, “Howdy” and “Chief” to those who loved him, died peacefully at his home on Sunday, August 14, 2011.

Born July 22, 1953, in San Fernando, Paul graduated from Oxnard High School in 1971, and then served in the United States Air Force as a firefighter from April 1972 to April 1977. Paul joined the Naval Base Ventura County Fire Department in May 1977, serving 28 years and retiring with the rank of Assistant Fire Chief in July 2005. After retiring from the fire service Paul followed his calling and accepted a teaching position with the Oxnard College Fire Technology program, eventually becoming a tenured Associate Professor and Department Chair.

Paul served on the program effectiveness and planning and curriculum committees and was a member of the Oxnard College Senate. In 2004 Paul received acclaim for voluntarily teaching an Incident Command System class in Cabo San Lucas, Baja California, Mexico. This class was attended by personnel from all over Mexico including, Guadalajara, La Paz, Mexico City and representatives from Lima, Peru and all places in between.

Paul was an avid fisherman and could often be found surf fishing near his home on the beach at Oxnard Shores. But Paul's true passion was teaching the next generation of firefighters to become the best and brightest they could be. He was very proud of his students and was extremely devoted to the Oxnard College Fire Technology Program.

## Larry Libby



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Larry A. Libby, 60, passed away unexpectedly Thursday evening, August 11, 2011, playing basketball with his grandson. He was born July 28, 1951, in Muniac, New Brunswick and was a graduate of Limestone High School. Larry proudly served his country with the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam achieving the rank of corporal. Larry had been employed as a firefighter at the former Loring AFB for many years until relocating to Pope Air Force Base, N.C., in 1994. He served as fire chief for the Naval Group Support Activity in Winter Harbor from 1995 to 2002. Mr. Libby was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Paul Lockhart Post No. 6187, Fort Fairfield, Fort Fairfield American Legion Walter Lovely Post No. 27, and a life member of Disabled American Veterans. Larry enjoyed all sports, especially basketball, and coached basketball games at the middle and elementary school levels. He will be remembered for maintaining an impeccable home and lawn, and loved to spend time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

## 2011 DoD F&ES Awards

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## Navy and Marine Corps Garner Six Awards

### TEAM AWARDS

DoD Large Fire Department of the Year

*Joint Region Marianas*



### DoD Heroism



*NSA Mid-South, TN*

### DoD Heroism



*MCLB Barstow, CA*



## 2011 DoD F&ES Awards

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### INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

#### DoD Civilian

Fire Officer of the Year

Firefighter of the Year



**Assistant Chief Paul Purdy**  
**MCLB Barstow, CA**



**Firefighter Takashi Innami**  
**Navy Region Japan**

#### DoD Fire Service Instructor of the Year



**Firefighter Yujiro Iwata**  
**Navy Region Japan**



## 2011 DoD F&ES Awards

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## DoD Honors “Best of the Best” in Atlanta

<b>Large Fire Department of the Year</b>	Joint Region Marianas, Guam
<b>Medium Fire Department of the Year</b>	USAG Camp Humphreys, Korea
<b>Small Fire Department of the Year</b>	Joint Base San Antonio, TX
<b>Fire Prevention Program of the Year</b>	USAG Daegu, Korea
<b>Heroism</b>	Fort Carson, CO
	MCLB Barstow, CA
	NSA Mid South, TN
	Joint Base Balad, Iraq
	DLA Susquehanna, PA
<b>Military Fire Officer of the Year</b>	MSgt Mark Connell, Scott AFB, IL
<b>Military Firefighter of the Year</b>	SPC Chase Snodgrass Fort Carson, CO
<b>Civilian Fire Officer of the Year</b>	Assistant Chief Paul Purdy MCLB Barstow, CA
<b>Civilian Firefighter of the Year</b>	Firefighter Takashi Innami Navy Region Japan
<b>Fire Service Instructor of the Year</b>	Firefighter Yujiro Iwata Navy Region Japan

Congratulations to all of our 2011 DoD Fire & Emergency Services Annual Award winners and nominees! Protecting Those Who Defend America!!

## ***“New Normal”***

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Randy Bruegman  
President, CPSE  
Fire Chief, City of Anaheim, CA

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## ***What Is The New “Normal”?***

By Randy Bruegman, President, Center for Public Safety Excellence

Over the past 48 months, many in our profession have observed that the fire service has experienced a transition unlike any we have seen. Only ten years ago, in the wake of 9/11, the fire service’s reputation was untouchable, respected and revered, a profession often used in national advertisements due to the trust and honor people associated with the fire service. Now, the fire service is no longer an untouchable in local government

It used to be that the fire service was almost sacred in the budget process, but that is no longer true. In fact, the fire service is now getting hit by budget reductions just like other city and county departments. In the past, the call to action by local unions made to the citizens was an effective tool, but today is having an adverse effect upon the constituency as well as the elected officials.

So what has happened? In a very short period of time, many factors have come into play to create the shift we are experiencing and witnessing today. The economic downturn has hit people very hard. Additionally, the rising cost of fire service pension and health care cost for our profession is often front page news in many jurisdictions. Reduced revenue, coupled with these increase costs, have forced many fire companies to be taken out of service, firefighters to be laid off, and staffing reduced through attrition to meet this new budget reality.

The environment that the fire service and local government has been accustomed to has radically changed; yet, as a profession, we still approach this new dynamic the same way we always have. In fact, I think the fire service has experienced a paradigm shift. Joel Barker, an author who has written several books regarding paradigms and the effects that such shifts can have on business and government, states that “a paradigm is a set of rules and regulations that: 1) defines boundaries, and 2) tells you what to do to be successful within those boundaries.”

If this is the case, then success is measured by the problems you solve using the rules and regulations found in the paradigm. The framework we operate from, the paradigm, defines what the game is and how to play it successfully. The paradigm tells you how to play the game according to the rules. With that definition, you can’t help but conclude that there are many paradigms in our every-day life and certainly within our profession.

A paradigm shift is reflected when there is a change to a new game, a new set of rules. So the question today, is the fire service in a new game, and have the rules changed? If that is the case, then the way we have voiced our concern and issues in the past, and the methods by which we communicate the needs of the service, may not be effective as we move into the future. The way business is conducted, the organizations ability to articulate where it is going, and the reasons for it, is critical for every organization today. A must in today’s environment is the ability to frame and deliver our message in a way that elected officials and the public can understand, as well as linking it to performance-based outcomes for those that we serve.



## Bruegman (Cont.)

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Unfortunately, many in our profession are still approaching business the way it has always been done, and frankly, this is not going to cut it. Author Jim Collins, in his best-selling book, *How the Mighty Fall*, describes the five stages that an organization, company or profession goes through, in the context of the five stages of decline. This is very relevant to where the fire service finds itself today.

### **Stage 1: THE HUBRIS BORN OF SUCCESS.**

Great enterprises can become insulated by their success. This stage kicks in when people become arrogant regarding their success, virtually as an entitlement, and they can lose sight of the true factors that have created the success in the first place. You have to ask yourself if the events of September 11 were the tipping point for the mentality of the fire service and the overestimation of its own merit. After all, many in our ranks believe that all civilians look upon firefighters as heroes and as such perceive that they should be treated differently.

### **Stage 2: THE UNDISCIPLINED PURSUIT OF MORE.**

Collins talks about the Pursuit of More as being more scale, more growth, more acclaim, more of whatever, for those in power, to see as success. He cites that organizations in Stage Two often stray from the disciplined creativity that led them to their greatness in the first place. The fire service has experienced this over the course of the last several years.

### **Stage 3: THE DENIAL OF RISK AND PERIL.**

As companies move into this stage, there are internal warning signs that would indicate we may be on a collision course yet; our external results remain strong enough to explain it away, and therefore we do not focus our time and attention to it. Again, this may be the case over the last ten years as we were so wrapped up in ourselves. Most in fire service leadership positions failed to actually look at the emerging economic trend-lines and plan for the impacts that most of us have experienced. In this stage, leaders in both labor and management often discount negative data, continuing to put a positive spin on things even though it may not be positive, instead of focusing on the internal issues. They continue to blame external factors for the setbacks rather than accepting the responsibility of positioning the organization for the future.

### **Stage 4: GRASPING FOR SALVATION.**

Collins calls this stage searching for quick salvation, or getting back to the disciplines that brought about greatness in the first place. I often think of the discussions that I have had over the course of the last 48 months with two different departments when the budget crisis hit and we had to reduce staffing and/or place companies out of service. It was customary for all throughout the organization to go back to where we had always been, and that was to try and scare the public into thinking that a loss of resources would have dramatic impacts upon the entire citizenry. While many in our profession see this dramatic action as positive, it often has little or no impact, it is never sustainable long-term, nor does it do anything to begin the re-engineering of the organization for sustainability in the future.

## Bruegman (Cont.)

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### Stage 5: CAPITULATION TO IRRELEVANCE OR DEATH.

The longer a company remains in Stage Four, the longer it will spiral downward. Once you reach Stage Five, it is very difficult to come back out of this stage. Although it may take decades to move through all of these stages, once a company or profession enters this stage, it is almost impossible to get out.

I see a significant number of parallels in what Collins' research has alluded to in the corporate sector to what is occurring today in the fire service.

Barker speaks to the new reality as a new paradigm appears, everything goes back to zero. Zero, he writes, means that whatever leverage one had before due to the old paradigm, is dramatically diminished with the emergence of the new paradigm. With that in mind, if we are in the emergence of a new paradigm for our profession, then what are the strategic questions we need to be asking ourselves today so that we can prepare our organizations for the shifts that will need to occur, if in fact we are going to survive and be successful in the future?

We conducted a strategic planning session within my own organization, and I asked three questions that I thought were relevant in respect to creating the necessary dialogue to begin to address this new "normal."

#### 1) "How do we become more competitive in the future"?

Yes, competitiveness is about economics, the cost of our business including labor, how we utilize our resources and our overhead. But it is also about two other very important factors in today's fire service, intellectual capital and reputation management. We have a great number of senior level officers who will be retiring in the next ten years, and we have not done an effective job in preparing the next set of leaders to be able to step in and continue moving our organizations forward with a skill set needed for the future.

Today we also find that we must bring focus to managing our reputation. In many areas of the country, a negative reputation has developed toward public safety, the results from a variety of issues, public responses and reports involving the fire service. This is a critical element that should not be overlooked by organizations today. At a time when so many people are out of work or suffering significant financial hardship, the cost of public safety pensions is upsetting and the bombardment of negative news articles and advertisement is exhausting.

#### 2) "How can we create value added service for the customer beyond the 911 call"?

I believe that we can no longer rest on simply being able to respond to emergencies. We respond to such a small percentage of people that reside within our community or who travel through it, that we cannot rely on emergencies and the subsequent hero worship to carry the day with the other 97%, whose only interaction with us may be reading a negative headline in the local newspaper.

## Bruegman (Cont.)

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Therefore, is it time to engage in a totally different level of customer service to increase our value proposition of the fire service with our customers on a day-to-day basis? The value proposition is why should your customers buy your product where. We have had a monopoly on the market; however, the recent bid for fire protection by a private firm to a California city should be a warning to all of us. Don't assume that the public does not have a choice, because they do!

3) "How do we re-engineer and retool our profession for the future"? We face an interesting dilemma. People do not like change, and you can multiply that by a factor of five in the fire service. We are a tradition-bound organization, and tradition makes us effective with what we do, however it is in direct conflict with what is happening in our environment today. Part of the thought process regarding re-engineering and retooling for the future has to do, not only with the services and products that the fire service provides, but also with the fire service culture. Reengineering or retooling must occur in the way the industry looks at itself, and the service delivery models and services to be provided in the future. That is a significant shift for many in our profession, but one I believe the fire service has to make, if we are to be successful in this new paradigm, this new "normal," this new environment that we are working in today. I sincerely hope that we are up for the challenge.

Be safe!

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## Combs Cartoon



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## Raking in the Headaches



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## DoD Firefighter Heritage

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## DoD Fallen Firefighter Memorial

By Mike Robertson, President Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation

The Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation conducted a memorial service on 1 April 2011 at Goodfellow AFB, TX to honor six DoD firefighters who died in the line-of-duty on the dates indicated.

Mr. William Travis	NAS Norfolk	4 March 1981
Mr. Robert Hoeflien	NAB Little Creek	27 September 1988
AM3 Ronald E Blakemen	Midway Island	22 January 1961
AB3 Gordon G Blatchley	Midway Island	22 January 1961
AN Robert J Razey	Midway Island	22 January 1961
A1C Derek Kozorosky	Kadena AB Japan	11 February 2001

Mike Robertson, President of the Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation served as the Master of Ceremonies where the names of the fallen were unveiled, and a wreath was presented in their honor. Speakers during the service were TSgt Nelson Thomas of Kadena AB, Japan, Mr Ron Siarnicki, Executive Director of the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation and Colonel Thomas Geary, Commander 17th Training Wing.

The next ceremony is tentatively scheduled for 4 May 2012 where the following Navy personnel will be added to the DoD Fallen Firefighters Memorial:

Mr. Brian Lindsey	NAS San Diego, CA	19 October 1973
Mr. Stanley Hertel	NAS San Diego, CA	19 October 1973
Mr. Stephen Stiftner	NALF San Clemente Island, CA	October 1973
Mr. Kenneth Jeffery	Submarine Base Groton CT	31 December 2003
Mr. Roberto Nocera	NSA Naples, Italy	13 August 2011

## FDNY Visits Hawaii



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## Promoting Stephen Siller Charity 5K Run



FDNY Battalion Chiefs John LaBarbera and John Carroll visits the USS Arizona Memorial along with Navy Region Hawaii Fire Chief Glenn DeLaura. Chief LaBarbera and Chief Carroll visited Oahu to promote the Annual Stephen Siller Foundation 5K charity run on 9-11 held on Ford Island.

## On the Job - Northwest

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## Navy Region Northwest Hosts Rescue Training

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Dmitry Chepusov



Navy Region Northwest Fire and Emergency Services (NRNW F&ES) firefighters led high angle rescue training with more than 40 technical rescue personnel from a dozen fire departments from Kitsap, Jefferson and Clallam counties.

The training took place on Naval Magazine Indian Island's (NMII) largest crane, otherwise known as "Big Blue," which stands approximately 320 feet tall with its boom in the highest position.

The high angle rescue training consisted of rigging multiple lines to raise and lower personnel and a victim inside a basket more than 150 feet. The training is conducted once a year by NRNW F&ES, but this is the first time the Navy invited civilian fire and rescue personnel making up the Homeland Security Region 2 Technical Rescue Team to participate.

"[Big Blue] presents many unique rescue challenges," said NRNW F&ES Assistant Chief Eric Wentworth. "With the height and configuration of the crane, if anyone experiences a medical condition and can't extricate themselves down to the ground to get help, we'll have to lower the patient down manually using ropes."

Wentworth said NMII has only four rescue personnel on the base, so a mutual aid situation will happen if there is ever a victim stuck in the crane. The training provided could also be used in other vertical rescue scenarios, he said.

"Having joint training exercises with neighboring jurisdictions allows the agencies to learn what each agency's capabilities and limitations are," said NMII Station 91 Fire Captain Glenn Samples. "It provides all of us an opportunity to use different equipment and to learn specialized skill sets from each individual. But most importantly, joint training exercises help to maintain open lines of communication and foster good working relationships."

Last fiscal year, NRNW F&ES received more than 3,400 calls for fire and rescue services spread out among all four Navy installations. Nearly a quarter of those calls were for requests for services in areas outside of the bases' property lines. NRNW F&ES Deputy Fire Chief Kurt Waeschle said they receive an average of two calls per day for off-base assistance with situations ranging from fires to medical aid to miscellaneous support.

"Through our mutual aid agreement, Station 91 at Indian Island is called out into the county at least once a week and we have gladly responded to several on-base calls when the Navy needed additional assistance," said East Jefferson Fire Rescue spokesman Bill Beezley.

## ***AED Success Story***

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### ***The Chain of Survival***

Robert M. Bethea, EMS Battalion Chief, NASCC F&ES

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. We have all heard this saying before, but a recent event aboard NAS Corpus Christi (NASCC) shows that a strong chain can save lives. The American Heart Association's Chain of Survival for the victim of sudden cardiac arrest consists of five parts;

1. Immediate recognition of cardiac arrest and activation of the emergency response system
2. Early CPR with an emphasis on chest compressions
3. Rapid defibrillation
4. Effective advanced life support
5. Integrated post-cardiac arrest care

All those elements were in place when a person aboard NASCC became the victim of sudden cardiac arrest.

The NASCC Dispatch Center received A telephone call that cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was in progress on the base. The dispatcher notified NASCC F&ES to respond (first link in the chain of survival). At the same time this call was being made, two Navy Corpsmen had started caring for the patient by providing CPR and attaching an automatic external defibrillator (AED) to the patient's chest, which delivered an electrical defibrillation shock to the patient (the second and third links in the chain of survival). NASCC F&ES was also dispatched and responded to the call. NASCC Dispatch requested an advanced life support (ALS) ambulance from The City of Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) under a mutual aid agreement.

NASCC F&ES arrived on the scene and assumed patient care duties. It was during this care, some eight minutes after the initial call to the Dispatch Center, that the patient's heart was restarted and produced a pulse,

An ALS ambulance from CCFD arrived and provided rapid transport of the patient to a nearby hospital emergency room (the fourth link in the chain of survival).

The fifth and final link in the chain of survival is the specialized hospital care that the patient received. Because all of the links in the chain of survival were connected and strong, the patient survived and is expected to make a full recovery.

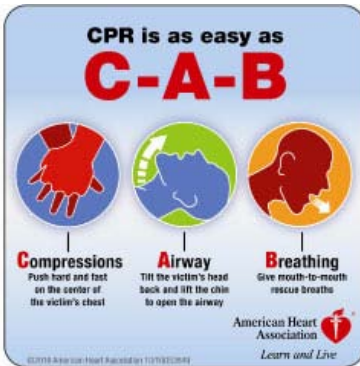
This incident highlights the importance of having a well organized community wide system of care for sudden cardiac arrests. The chain of survival was present at every key stage in order to save this patient's life. From the civilians who made the initial call for help, the emergency dispatchers, the Corpsmen, NASCC F&ES, CCFD EMS and the local hospital, each link in the chain of survival did what it was supposed to do. It was a team effort that saved the life of this patient.

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## AED Success (Cont.)

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What are the steps that each of us can take to maximize survival of a sudden cardiac arrest patient.

First, learning Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an AED is a critical step in improving the chances of survival of a victim of sudden cardiac arrest. NASCC F&ES offers CPR and AED training to all active military members and federal civilian employees free of charge. This training covers the entire chain of survival to include CPR and AED use for the layperson.

Second, support the Navy Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) program. The Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) F&ES HQ PAD program supports CPR/AED training and the installation of AED's in critical locations throughout Navy installations worldwide. NAS Corpus Christi has already started developing an effective PAD program and these efforts are already paying off.

This is the second sudden cardiac arrest that has occurred aboard NAS Corpus Christi in the span of seven months. Fortunately both of these patients survived because of the combined efforts of the NASCC community chain of survival. The most recent event highlights the extreme importance of knowing what to do in an emergency. It really is incumbent upon Navy F&ES to be the advocate for PAD programs Navy wide and to be the resource agency for CPR and AED training for all members aboard our respective installations.

## On the Job - Hawaii



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## Length of Service Awards



Navy Region Hawaii Federal Fire Department Fire Inspectors Harry Maglasang (left) and Kalani Whitford (right) receiving 40 year career service awards from Rear Admiral Dixon Smith on Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam Base Chapel Thursday 21 July 2011.

Photo credit MC2 Robbie Stirrup CNRH Public Affairs

## ***On the Job – USMC***

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## ***Camp Pendleton Activity***

By Jeffrey Wilkerson, Acting Fire Chief

It has been a busy summer for the members of Camp Pendleton Fire & Emergency Services. Since the last newsletter, EMS personnel have delivered three babies in the field.

Unfortunately, two tragedies have occurred on the installation. On July 6, a helicopter crash took the life of one Marine and injured four others. Firefighters were in the area at the time of the crash, having just cleared a vegetation fire. On August 25, units responded to a fire in one of the base housing units. A 13 year-old girl tragically lost her life and four firefighters were injured, none seriously, while attempting to rescue her.

It has been a slow year as far as wildfires are concerned, but on August 28, a fire broke out in an inaccessible area of the base, threatening both the Cleveland National Forest and the Orange County Fire Authority. Camp Pendleton firefighters received assistance from a strike team and helicopter from Orange County and six hand crews from CAL FIRE to contain the fire to 35 acres of heavy brush.

In addition, F&ES personnel from Camp Pendleton have been assigned to local strike teams to assist on several wildfires this summer. Captain David Edwards recently spent nearly three weeks in Texas, assisting with wildfires there as part of an engine cross-staffed with Camp Pendleton and U.S. Forest Service personnel. Captain Patrick Williams was assigned as the Division Group Supervisor at the Wallows fire in Arizona. This was the largest fire in Arizona's history, consuming over 500,000 acres.

The department bid farewell to Division Chief Paul Bremseth, who retired after 23 years of service at Camp Pendleton. We thank him for his years of service and wish him and his family well in his retirement. He will be able to keep up with the happenings of fire departments, as he has three daughters who are married to firefighter/paramedics in local area.



## ***Military Retiree Pay***



## ***Military Retiree Pay Dates to Change***

Paydays for military retirees and those who receive portions of retired pay are changing for September and December, as the Defense Finance and Accounting Service changes its pay schedule to comply with the 2011 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

The 2011 NDAA requires military retiree pay to be processed on the first day of the month. When that day falls on a weekend or national holiday, the pay date is moved to the previous business day.

This year payments normally scheduled for 3 Oct 2011 will be issued on 30 Sep 2011 and payments normally scheduled for 3 Jan 2012, will be issued on 30 Dec 2011. For the calendar year 2011, this means military retirees will receive 13 rather than the normal 12 payments.

For more about DFAS visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.

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## On the Job - Bethesda

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## From the Hill



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## Fire-Based EMS Introduced at NNMCMC



In preparation for the start-up of a fire-based Emergency Medical Services component, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda Fire & Emergency Services has completed rehab of a 2003 Ford E350 ambulance which previously saw service with the National

Naval Medical Center Emergency Services and Transportation fleet.

The Medic 750 ambulance has undergone a mechanical check-up along with a complete cosmetic makeover to include upgraded emergency lighting along with new lettering. The Advanced Life Support ambulance is equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment. The ambulance project would not have been possible without the assistance of Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical, National Naval Medical Center, and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems. This ambulance will allow NSA-Bethesda to provide advanced emergency medical care and transportation for patients, staff and visitors.

## House To Vote On Honoring Federal Workers

By Emily Long [elong@govexec.com](mailto:elong@govexec.com)

House lawmakers returned to Washington ready to take up a bill honoring the service of federal civilian employees.

The legislation (H.R. 2061), introduced by Reps. Richard Hanna, R-N.Y., and Maurice Hinchey, D-N.Y., would authorize heads of executive agencies to provide American flags for the funerals of civilian workers killed in the line of duty.

"Every year federal civilian employees are killed at home and abroad doing their duty for our nation," said Rep. Richard Hanna, R-N.Y., in a statement introducing the bill. "This legislation would provide a modest, but significant, benefit in honor of these dedicated individuals who sacrificed on our behalf."

Office of Personnel Management data show that nearly 3,000 civilian federal employees have died in the line of duty since 1992.

"Just as do members of the Armed Forces, members of the federal civilian workforce often risk their lives in order to carry out official duties and are critical to executing agencies' foreign and domestic missions," the letter stated. "This act would ensure that future employees who are killed while performing official duties are recognized for their valor and dedication to their agency, and, most importantly, to the people of the United States."

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## *Back in the Day*

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## *Ward LaFrance in the Navy*

By Tom W. Shand

The Ward LaFrance Truck Corporation located in Elmira Heights, New York supplied a number of ARFF and structural apparatus to the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps over the years. The company was founded in 1918 by Addison Ward LaFrance who was a nephew to one of the founders of nearby American LaFrance Fire Engine Company. While Ward LaFrance was most famous for its model 85T long nose conventional chassis pumpers, a number of unique vehicles were produced by the company over its sixty one year history.



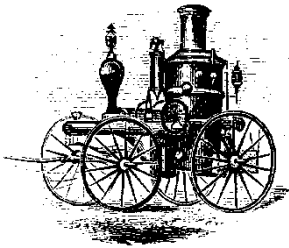
Photo from the collection of Tom Shand

During World War II Ward LaFrance was a major supplier of vehicles to support the war effort and produced over 2500 M1A1 heavy duty wreckers and pontoon drive bridge 6x6 trucks. Between 1956 and 1958 Ward LaFrance supplied 139 MB-5 model crash units to the Navy. These units carried 400 gallons of water and 30 gallons of foam with a single roof mounted turret. The Marine Corps took delivery of seventeen model 75TS canopy cab pumpers during 1949 that were equipped with a 750 gpm pump, 250 gallon water tank with a rear facing bench seat and foam making equipment. In later years the Navy placed into service several 85T model 750 gpm pumpers in both open and canopy cab configurations. Powered by Waukesha 779 cubic inch engines which developed 240 horsepower these units were well built for this era and had a very distinctive motor sound when responding to alarms.

While Ward LaFrance never built their own aerial ladder devices they formed an agreement with Maxim Motors of Middleboro, Massachusetts to supply them with aerial ladders for various fire departments. In 1979 the U.S. Navy took delivery of four Ward LaFrance Ambassador model ladder trucks equipped with 100 foot Maxim rear mount aerials. These units were originally assigned to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Norfolk Naval Station and Shipyard in Virginia and the Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut.

## Back in the Day (Cont.)

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Each of these ladder trucks were built with the Ambassador model canopy cab which featured a lower reverse slope windshield which allowed clear visibility in front of the vehicle. These rigs were powered by Detroit Diesel 8V-71N engines rated at 350 horsepower with Allison automatic transmissions on a 200 inch tandem axle wheelbase. Serial number 80-1640 was delivered to the Groton Submarine Base in October, 1979 and assigned Navy property number 74-00050. These four rear mount ladders would be the only Ward LaFrance ladder trucks to see service with Navy fire departments.

The four section steel Maxim ladders were among the first rear mount devices to be acquired by the U.S. Navy and served these departments for many years. The Groton rear mount ladder later saw service with the former Philadelphia Naval Shipyard department with several others seeing service with municipal departments in Virginia and New Jersey after being replaced at the various Navy installations.

## Vietnam Vet News

### VA Lists Agent Orange Exposure Ships

Department of Veteran's Affairs News Release, 2 Sep 2011

Veterans who served aboard U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships operating on the waters of Vietnam between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, may be eligible to receive VA disability compensation for 14 medical conditions associated with presumptive exposure to Agent Orange.

An updated list of U.S. Navy and Coast Guard ships confirmed to have operated on Vietnam's inland waterways, docked on shore, or had crewmembers sent ashore, has been posted at <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/> to assist Vietnam Veterans in determining potential eligibility for compensation benefits.

"Posting of the ships list is an important recognition of the sacrifices U.S. Navy and Coast Guard Veterans made for this Nation," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K.

Shinseki. "It provides an easier path for Veterans who served in Vietnam to get the benefits and services they are entitled to under the law."



VA presumes herbicide exposure for any Veteran with duty or visitation within the country of Vietnam or on its inland waterways during the Vietnam era. Comprehensive information about the 14 recognized illnesses under VA's "presumption" rule for Agent Orange is also located on the webpage.

In practical terms, Veterans with qualifying Vietnam service who develop a disease associated with Agent Orange exposure need not prove a medical link between their illnesses and their military service. This presumption simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits.

For questions about Agent Orange and the online list of ships, Veterans may call VA's Special Issues Helpline at 1-800-749-8387 and press 3.



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## *On the Job - Hawaii*

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### *Red Hill Tunnel Fire Drill Exercise*



On 26 July 2011, the Federal Fire Department conducted a fire drill and training exercise at Red Hill Tunnel at Adit 3. Red Hill Tunnel is required to have two scheduled fire exercises each year. These exercises are to simulate different scenarios of a fire in the tunnel and conduct a deep extraction of an injured person.

During the exercise the Federal Fire Department had 27 firefighter personnel with 9 fire apparatus and 3 Chief Command vehicles.

Firefighters from Engine 101, 102, and 104 extended 550 feet of 4-inch hose line, 400 feet of 3-inch hose line, and 200 feet of 1-3/4 inch bundled hose. Firefighters face many difficult challenges and must be prepared to deal with potential risks when entering an underground facility like the Red Hill Tunnel.

Red Hill Tunnel is an underground fuel storage facility located in Red Hill and is owned and operated by the Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor United States Navy. The Red Hill Tunnel is the only one of its kind in that the tunnel houses 20 vertical cylindrical tanks and each tank measures 250 feet tall by 100 feet in diameter and can store approximately 252 million gallons of Diesel. The tanks are hollowed out of volcanic rock 100 feet under a ridge within Red Hill.

The construction began on Christmas of 1940 and was completed by

September of 1943. The facility is connected by pipes and tunnels to Navy piers and other shore facilities more than three miles away. The Red Hill Fuel storage facility provides the majority of the fuel for the entire Pacific Fleet. The facility was built into Red Hill between South Halawa Stream and Moanalua Stream during World War II to provide fuel for the Pacific theatre of operations and has been in service since. In 1995, the Red Hill tunnel was designated by the American Society of Engineers as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.





## *Navy Jobs Info*

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## *Navy Changes Job Application Process*

In an ongoing effort to improve the applicant experience, the DON will be replacing the CHART application system with the USAJOBS online system. USAJOBS is the federal government's official one-stop source for federal jobs and employment information.

After September 30, 2011, all DON job vacancies will be posted on the USAJOBS website and the CHART job search functionality and job vacancies will be removed.

For non Department of the Defense (DoD) employees, CHART will no longer be accessible after October 12, 2011. If you are a DoD or DON employee you may access CHART via a computer on a registered Government network (which may also require CAC authentication) until 30 December, 2011. Only resume and status information will be available for view.

DON will no longer use DON nation wide Open Continuous Announcements (OCAs) to gather applications for upcoming and anticipated vacancies. Most vacancies will be filled using individual vacancy announcements with identified closing dates. For frequently filled jobs at a particular DON installation or activity, activity specific OCAs may be opened. You can be notified via email for posted vacancy announcements by using the USAJOBS Saved Searches feature.

### PREPARING FOR THE MOVE

1. Before September 30, 2011, you should access your CHART account at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil/> and print and save an electronic copy of your online CHART resume.
2. Create a USAJOBS account at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) and either upload a resume or build a resume using your current CHART resume information. A fact sheet outlining the key steps to transfer your information is available at [www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/hiringreform](http://www.public.navy.mil/DONHR/employment/hiringreform). (Please note that USAJOBS will be down for a major upgrade from 6 to 13 October 2011.)
3. The online applicant tool kit and frequently asked questions are located at [www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Employment/hiringreform/Pages/ApplicantToolkit.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Employment/hiringreform/Pages/ApplicantToolkit.aspx).
4. Explore USAJOBS and its different features, create saved searches for jobs of interest and locations, sign-up to receive email alerts for when announcements are posted.
5. Non DoD employees: Before October 12, 2011, make a final check of CHART information and any related status updates.
6. DoD and DON employees: Before December 30, 2011, make a final check of CHART information and any related status updates.

Specific questions regarding your CHART account can be sent to [CHART@navy.mil](mailto:CHART@navy.mil); questions on the transition to USAJOBS should be sent to [DONhrfaq@navy.mil](mailto:DONhrfaq@navy.mil).

## USFA Releases Report

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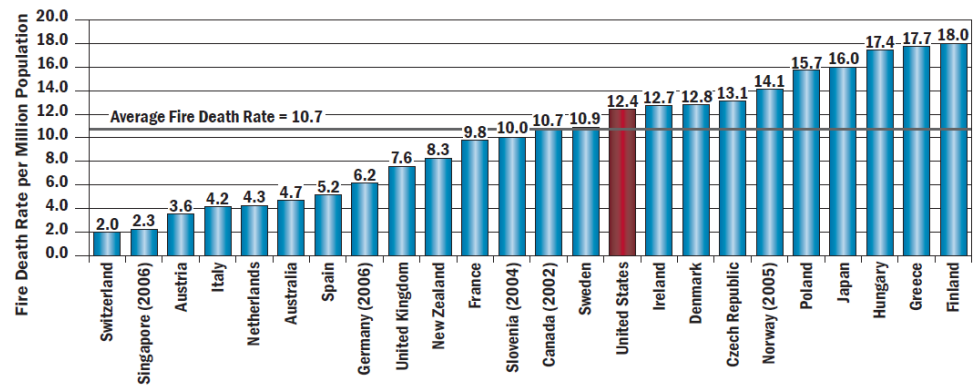


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## International Fire Death Rate Trends Report

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) United States Fire Administration (USFA) announces the release of a special report examining the nature of the United States fire death problem and compares it to other industrialized nations.

2007 International Fire Death Rates per Million Population



Sources: World Fire Statistics Centre fire death data and the United Nations (U.N.) Demographic Yearbook population estimate data.  
Note: Where 2007 data were unavailable, the death rate for the most recent year available is shown.

The report, *Fire Death Rate Trends: An International Perspective*, was developed by USFA's National Fire Data Center. The analyses in this report reveal the magnitude of the fire death problem; trends in overall rates and differences between the countries are also explored. The report is part of the Topical Fire Report Series and is based on fire death data from the World Fire Statistics Centre and U.N. Demographic Yearbook population estimate data.

According to the report:

- From 1979 to 2007, fire death rates per million population have consistently fallen throughout the industrialized world. The North American and Eastern European regions' fire death rates have fallen faster than other regions.
- From 1979 to 2007, the fire death rate in the United States declined by 66 percent. Today, the United States still has one of the higher fire death rates in the industrialized world; however, its standing has greatly improved.
- Japan, a leader in fire safety, shows a slight worsening of fire death rates over the years studied.

Topical reports generally explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information.

Download this report at

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v12i8.pdf>

For information regarding other topical reports or any programs and training available at the USFA, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)

## Phishing Alert

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## IRS Phishing Scam Making Rounds

If you have received an email that looks like the one below please don't respond. It is a scam to deceive you into disclosing personal information.

Here are some indications that it is a scam:

1. A financial, or government agency will NOT send you an unsolicited email and ask for personal or financial information online.
2. The IRS is not going to copy lots of people on a personal email to you (look how many groups are copied below)
3. The taxpayer ID is made up. Yours would be your social, and the IRS is not going to send it in an email

Phishing is a high-tech scam that uses unsolicited email or websites to deceive you into disclosing your credit card numbers, bank account information, social security number, passwords or other sensitive information. Phishers may pose as your internet service provider, bank, online payment service or even a government agency. If you get an email or pop up message that asks for personal or financial information or for information system related information, do not reply or click on the link in the message. Just delete the email. Legitimate companies do not ask for this information via email.

-----Original Message-----

From: Support IRS.gov [mailto:subscriptions@irs.security.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2011 7:29

To: cnihperssup@nmci-isf.com; cnihpertops@nmci-isf.com;  
cnihpds@nmci-isf.com; cnihpublishsafety@nmci-isf.com;  
cnihq.ombudsman@nmci-isf.com; CNI HQ Civilians; CNI HQ  
Contractors; CNI HQ All Hands; M\_CNI HQ BRAC; CNI HQ CAMO;  
CNI HQ CIO Whereabouts

Subject: Internal Revenue Service United States Department of the Treasury

Importance: High

Taxpayer ID: commensurate-00000700955060US

Tax Type: INCOME TAX

Issue: Unreported/Underreported Income (Fraud Application)

To download your tax statement from Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website (click on the link below):

download tax statement: commensurate-00000700951060US.pdf

Nobody speaks the truth when there's something they must have.  
-[Elizabeth Bowen](#)



## ***Fire Marshal Credential***

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## ***CPC Launches New Designation***

The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) is pleased to announce the launching of the Fire Marshal (FM) Designation. Rick Mason, CFO, Chair, CPC said “when contemplating what the next professional designation should be the Commission on Professional Credentialing was quick to embrace the Fire Marshal Designation...it makes sense that those who enforce our fire codes, teach citizens fire prevention, and find the cause of destructive fires should have a professional designation. Having the designation will both show professionalism of the individual as well as the professionalism of the department.”



**Commission on  
Professional  
Credentialing**

The designation was created following the “whole” officer model the Commission developed in 2000 for the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) credential. The program is a verification and recognition of past accomplishments and a starting point for future achievements. There are minimum eligibility requirements in the form of academic achievements and practical experience. In addition, the process also assesses contributions to the fire prevention field in the way of professional articles, public speaking, teaching and research as well as professional memberships, community and civic involvement and technical competence all of which is peer reviewed. The program also offers an excellent road map for someone choosing to move up in fire prevention.

To initiate the Fire Marshal (FM) Designation process the candidate must assemble a portfolio demonstrating excellence in seven key areas: Experience, Education, Professional Development, Professional Contributions, Professional Memberships and Affiliations, Community Service, and Technical Competencies. Those exhibiting extensive experience and educational background may meet the eligibility requirements to exempt them from having to complete the technical competency section.

In addition, fire prevention officers who have a valid International Code Council (ICC) Fire Marshal Certification will have an advantage when they seek the Fire Marshal Designation through CPC. The ICC certification acknowledges credentials and competencies to serve as a Fire Marshal. The CPC recognizes anyone holding a current ICC Fire Marshal Certification as having the technical competencies in building and fire code administration necessary for the Fire Marshal Designation.

To learn more about the Fire Marshal designation or to begin the application process, please visit our website at

<http://www.publicsafetyexcellence.org/professional-credentialing/fire-marshall.aspx>.

## ESAMS Corner

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HGW has updated ESAMS, evolving the look and functionality of the Fire Main Page in preparation for several application updates coming in the next fiscal year, including:

- 1) centralized navigation
- 2) customized widgets
- 3) style change.

While the change to our look may seem significant, ESAMS users will retain much of the same functionality as before and Administrative users may find new ways to access information.

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## ESAMS Corner

By Clarence Settle, ESAMS Fire Technical Support

### August-September 2011 Statistics

#### Operations

Total Incidents – 13,294

Fires – 309

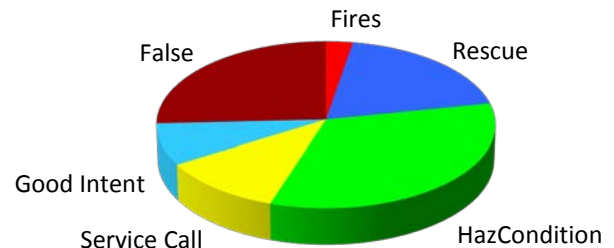
Rescue & EMS – 2,182

Hazardous – 3,779

Service Call – 1,276

Good Intent – 915

False Alarm – 2,935



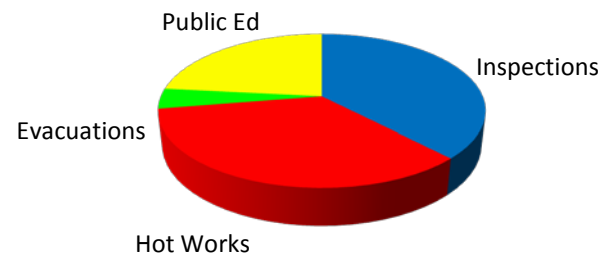
#### Prevention

Fire Inspections Completed – 7,313

Hot Work Permits Issued – 6,688

Building Evacuation Drills – 824

Public Education Contacts – 4,513



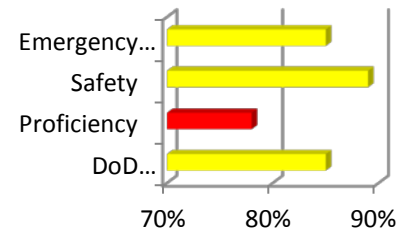
#### Training

Emergency Management – 85%

Safety Training – 89%

Proficiency – 78%

DoD Certification – 85%



### F&ES On Duty Mishaps Report

Mishaps Reported – 54

Total Lost Work Days – 278

#### **Updates to ESAMS:**

Added new E-Tracker Sub-Category: Fire - Fire Door Labeled/Listed; Added Size 30 on the pull down; Additional Info Page on Fire Extinguisher

When Duplicating a Fire Training Schedule from one Month to a new Month added a (check box) above the comment block that will allow the comments to carry over to the new Month that you are creating.

Fire Facilities Section --- Added the following boxes Add Year built on general tab Add Replacement value on general tab Add Vision Score (OVAP) box on the general tab- box will contain a 2-3 digit number Add access boxes check box under the Precautions/Special Features tab Add Fire Extinguishers for each facility (tie in with e-tracker) Make sure the blank Pre-Fire Plan and the report - Pre Fire Plan get updated with the new fields.

## Navy F&ES POCs

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## News Distribution

## Job Links

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## Navy Fire & Emergency Services (N30)

Commander, Navy Installations Command

716 Sicard Street, SE, Suite 1000

Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5140

<https://g2.cnrc.navy.mil/communities/service/html/communityview?communityUuid=2640240b-f9e3-4273-af9d-c20c128629e2>  
DSN 288

Carl Glover, 202-433-4775, [carl.glover@navy.mil](mailto:carl.glover@navy.mil)

Ricky Brockman, 202-433-4781, [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil)

Gene Rausch, 202-433-4753, [gene.rausch@navy.mil](mailto:gene.rausch@navy.mil)

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John Smithgall, 202-685-0882, [john.smithgall@navy.mil](mailto:john.smithgall@navy.mil)

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Eric Chaney, 202-433-3291, [eric.chaney@navy.mil](mailto:eric.chaney@navy.mil)

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Chris Handley, 202-433-7744, [christopher.handley@navy.mil](mailto:christopher.handley@navy.mil)

Adam Farb, 202-685-0712, [adam.farb@navy.mil](mailto:adam.farb@navy.mil)

To receive this newsletter automatically, e-mail [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil) to be added to the ***What's Happening*** distribution list.

Interested in becoming a DoD firefighter? Follow these links;

OPM: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

Army: <http://www.cpol.army.mil>

Navy: <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>

Marines: <http://www.usmc.mil/>

Air Force: <https://ww2.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/>



## THE 2011 NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

### MEMORIAL WEEKEND

OCTOBER 14 - 16

EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND